

THE PARISH OFFICE Due to COVID-19 restrictions the Parish Office is not open to the public. If you have a query email secretary@stmochtasparrish.ie and she will get back to you as soon as she can. Take care and stay safe. Thank You.



WELCOMING SUNDAY: This weekend we welcome all those who are to be baptised this coming month and introduce them to our community. May they continue to grow strong in body, mind and spirit. Anyone enquiring about baptism please see Mary Greene or Deacon Tim at the 10.30am or 12 noon mass on Sunday. Thank you.



NEW MISSAL FOR OUR READERS:

This year's missal is available for all our readers in the sacristy. Please pick up copy after Mass. Thank you.



PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS:

Archbishop Farrell is asking for people and priests to pray for vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life on a regular basis. As you are well aware, the need is great, so let's answer God's call and "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into his harvest"



HANDEL'S MESSIAH:

Our Lady's Choral Society and the Irish Chamber Orchestra with Proinnsias Ó Duinn and wonderful soloists present the 'definitive' performance of Handel's Messiah at the National Concert Hall on Wednesday, 15th and Thursday, 16th December at 8pm. Box office is open from Mon to Fri 10am to 2pm on 01 4170000. Website www.nch.ie



ST. MOCHTA'S BETHANY BEREAVEMENT GROUP

is unable to hold group meetings or 1:1's. If you need support, please phone or text 086 2479216 detailing if mornings or evenings suit you and one of the members will arrange a support call to you. Also the group has set up an online monthly Bereavement support meeting. The next online meeting will be held on Monday, 13th December at 7.30pm in place of the physical meeting. This will be facilitated through Zoom. If you want to avail of this, simply send a text or call 086 2479216 and the group will set you up for the meeting. This is a strictly confidential service.



KIDS CORNER: Having listened to the readings, please answer the following:

1. Who was out in the wilderness?
2. What was John asking the people to do?
3. Who was John preparing the way for?
4. What will he baptise us with?



TASK FOR THE WEEK: Why not begin the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem now! Set up the crib in the front room of your house. Place Mary and Joseph in your bedroom and each day move them a little so as the days pass they move closer to the crib. They should arrived for Christmas Eve.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL:

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul continues to support those seeking assistance to the best of our availability. For the many families that are helped they are faced daily impossible choices, but at this time of year for many these impossible choices get harder, put oil in the tank or get the present on their child's list. This year, more than ever, your help is needed to make sure that children and families have what they need to share in the magic of the season. On Saturday and Sunday 11th and 12th December, St Vincent de Paul will be holding a church collection in the hope to raise funds for people who are struggling this Christmas. This collection will replace the usual SHARE collection. For more information please contact your local SVP Volunteers.



ALONE manage a national support line for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to COVID-19. Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am-8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

SYNOD PRAYER

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in Your name.
With You alone to guide us,
make Yourself at home in our hearts;
Teach us the way we must go
and how we are to pursue it.
We are weak and sinful;
do not let us promote disorder.
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path
nor partiality influence our actions.
Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey
together to eternal life and not stray
from the way of truth and what is right.
All this we ask of You, who are at work in every
place and time, in the communion of the
Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

Archdiocese of Dublin – Blanchardstown Deanery

ST. MOCHTA'S PARISH

Porterstown / Clonsilla

PARISH NEWSLETTER 5TH DECEMBER 2021—2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"St. Mochta's is a young and developing faith community, which is conscious of its proud and ancient history, and seeks to be a welcoming and spirited Parish in the service of the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

(Parish Mission Statement)

Parish Priest : V. Rev. Paul Ward Tel: 8213218

Parish Deacon: Rev. Deacon Timothy Murphy Tel: 8213218

Parish Pastoral Worker: Mary Greene Tel: 8213218

Parish Secretary: June Phelan Tel: 8213218

Parish Sacristan: Mary Stacey Tel: 8213218

Parish Pastoral Centre Enquiries to: Terry Duffy

Parish Pastoral Committee: Chairperson Bryan Maher

Parish Finance Committee: Chairperson John Sherwood

email: secretary@stmochtasparrish.ie

email: deacontim@stmochtasparrish.ie

email: pastoralcare@stmochtasparrish.ie

email: secretary@stmochtasparrish.ie

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email: secretary@stmochtasparrish.ie

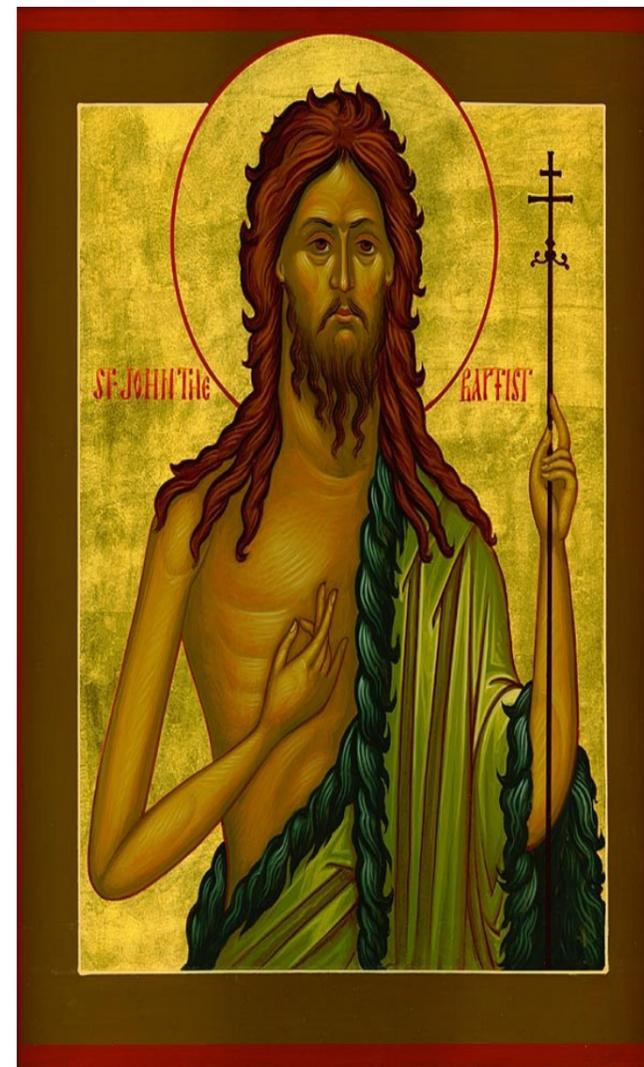
Parish Website Address: www.stmochtasparrish.ie

Webcam Link: <https://www.stmochtasparrish.ie/home/mass-times-and-webcam>

Preparing A Way For The Lord

In today's liturgy we hear the lonely but insistent voice of John the Baptist urging us to 'prepare a way for the Lord'.

The Lord comes to us in the Eucharist. Let us pause to prepare ourselves to receive him.



WELCOME TO OUR PARISH

If you are a new parishioner or just visiting St. Mochta's you are very welcome and we, the existing community, hope you feel at home. If you are new to the parish please make yourself known to Fr. Paul. We would also be grateful if you could fill out a **Registration Form** in order to register with the parish. They are available at the back of the Church.

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP



2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

6.00pm: Annette Russell (Anniv.)
10.30am: Peggy Patridge M/M
12.00pm: John Hughes M/M
EXPOSITION 7pm—8pm
Monday: St. Nicholas
10.00am: Requiem Mass for Bernadette Grehan RIP
Tuesday: St. Ambrose
10.00am:
Wednesday: Feast of Mary's Immaculate Conception
10.00am: Chrissie Barber (Recently Deceased)
Thursday: St. Juan Diego Cuanhtlatotzin
10.00am: Una Curry (Recently Deceased)
Friday: Our Lady of Loreto
10.00am: Jimmy Greene (Anniv.)

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

6.00pm:
10.30am: Charles Ward (Anniv.)
12.00pm: Joseph Coyne (Anniv.)
EXPOSITION 7pm—8pm

Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen.



SCRIPTURE READING: Each week we suggest a piece of Scripture to use in your prayer. Light a candle and read slowly the passage, re-read it a couple of times and reflect on it and listen to what God is saying to you. **This week's is Lk 3:10-18.**

Please pray for Fr. Paul, Baby Eve, Rui, Baby Freddie, Willie, M, Geraldine, Kevin, Mary P, Sean, Liam, Margaret R. and all those who are sick or housebound at this time.



2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT:

John the Baptist was full of the Holy Spirit. That's why his words hit home with so many. But he knew there was a greater power and greater effectiveness than he could ever have. For however much he was inspired by God, he could not send that Spirit into anyone. Could he cause them to put their sins behind them? Yes. Or strive to be holy? Yes. But he could not give them the presence of God; he could only tell them to prepare for the One who could and would give it. It was John's job to tell of the One to come, the Messiah, the One who would send the Holy Spirit into those he baptized. One whose words and deeds would have even more winnow the good from the bad, the fruit from the waste materials. One that John knew as friend and family, whom John had already come to respect and highly value, but didn't know as the One. The One was Jesus. Throughout His ministry, and in the early years of the apostles after Jesus' death, Jesus and his followers would keep coming across people who had come to love God through John's work. Some who heeded John's call soon took up their crosses and followed Jesus. But John's call for repentance helps us prepare, too, for John was just trying to get people to do what God wanted, and that's how anyone can be prepared for the presence of God-with-us.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION:

It's important to understand what the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception is and what it is not. Some people think the term refers to Christ's conception in Mary's womb without the intervention of a human father; but that is the Virgin Birth. Others think the Immaculate Conception means Mary was conceived "by the power of the Holy Spirit," in the way Jesus was, but that, too, is incorrect. The Immaculate Conception means that Mary, whose conception was brought about the normal way, was conceived without original sin or its stain—that's what "immaculate" means: without stain. The essence of original sin consists in the deprivation of sanctifying grace, and its stain is a corrupt nature. Mary was preserved from these defects by God's grace; from the first instant of her existence she was in the state of sanctifying grace and was free from the corrupt nature original sin brings. So, the grace Mary enjoyed was not a result of the angel's visit. In fact, Catholics hold, it extended over the whole of her life, from conception onward. She was in a state of sanctifying grace from the first moment of her existence. **The Feast of Mary's Immaculate Conception is a holy day of obligation and Mass will be celebrated next Wednesday morning, 8th December at 10am.**



CHRISTMASTIDE MASSES will be announced in next weeks newsletter.

2022 FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION Registration:

Online Registration for First Penance, First Holy Communion and Confirmation is taking place via our website www.stmochtasparish.ie now. **Registration will close at midnight on Tuesday 15th December 2021.** A letter has been distributed to each family in the Sacramental classes in our Primary Schools, containing a link for families to register. If you have any questions, please see Deacon Tim or Mary Greene our Pastoral Worker at the 10.30am or 12 noon mass on Sunday.



CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

will take place in the Church on **Friday, 17th December at 7.30pm.** The Carol Service offers us a great opportunity just to take a step back from all the hectic rushing around we do at Christmas time. It will help us to remember to place Jesus Christ at the center of all our preparations. It will be a lovely celebration for all of the parish.



MASS INTENTIONS: To arrange an anniversary Mass or Special Intention email sacristan@stmochtasparish.ie with all the details. Mary Stacey our Sacristan will get back to you as soon as she can. Early booking is recommended.

ARE YOU REGISTERED? If you have not registered with the parish please fill out one of the forms at the back of the church and return it to Fr. Paul or put it through his letterbox. Thank you.

EXPOSITION OF BLESSED SACRAMENT takes place each Sunday evening from **7pm—8pm in the Church** and offers us an opportunity to spend some quiet time with God. **All very welcome.**



CHRISTMAS CONFESSIONS will take place in the church from **1pm to 3pm on Sunday, 12th December and Sunday, 19th December** to help prepare us spiritually for the celebration of Christmas.



CHILDREN'S ROSARY every **Wednesday at 3pm in St. Philip's Church, Mountview.** Children must be accompanied by an Adult.



RETURNING TO FULL CAPACITY AT MASS: I am delighted that we are now open to 'full capacity', and you will be glad to hear that the yellow ribbons are now gone, sanitising of seats is finished, bookings and contact tracing is not necessary. People can sit in seats to full capacity. **Masks will have to be worn at all times and hands have to be sanitised before entering the church.** We

are truly grateful to the stewards as you have contributed to providing a healthy and safe environment in our church for parishioners over the past 19 months. We will still need to keep a presence of Stewards for the coming weeks as moving to full capacity still holds some restrictions. We are, please God, beginning to see a light for the end of Covid by maintaining these easing of restrictions as best we can over the coming time. I will keep you all in my prayers.

Thank you. Fr. Paul.

Church Open for Private Prayer

- The church will be open from Monday to Friday from 11am until 4pm and Sunday from 1pm to 7pm. You are welcome to visit for Private Prayer. We ask you, when visiting, to please follow the health and safety guidelines.
- Please sanitise your hands, using the free-standing sanitisers on entry and exit to and from the church.
- Please use a face covering indoors at all times.
- Private Prayer should be silent so as not to affect other people who are praying in silence.**
- If you are lighting a candle(s) please use the taper provided and be careful that you do not expose your hands to the naked flame as sanitising liquids can be flammable.
- Please do not visit the church if you are ill or displaying the virus symptoms.
- Please note also that while in the church, the webcam is on live stream every day.**

CHILDREN'S LITURGY ADVENT PREPARATION:

Our Children's Liturgy team have prepared a programme for the season of Advent which you and your children may enjoy. This programme is on in the Parish Pastoral Centre on Saturday evening at 5pm. Places are restricted due to Covid Guidelines. If you would like your child to attend please contact Phil Brennan at st.mochtascl@gmail.com to book a place(s). Everyone will be required to sanitise their hands and those over 12 years will be required to wear a mask and keep a social distance while in the room.



CHRISTMAS CARD VOLUNTEERS:

Our Christmas card will be ready shortly. We'd be grateful if our usual volunteers would offer their services once more. We will also be looking for new recruits for our ever expanding parish. The card contains Mass details for Christmas, etc. If available, please email us with your name and contact number. pastoralcare@stmochtasparish.ie Thank you for your continued support.

